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IDENTIFIERS *Trade Books

ABSTRACT

One hundred nineteen trade books are identified in this annotated bibliography. In general, they all (1) were written primarily for children in grades K-8; (2) emphasize human relations; (3) present an original theme or a fresh slant on a traditional topic; (4) are highly readable, and (5) have a pleasing format and, when appropriate, were illustrated. All titles were published in 1988. Reading levels of primary, intermediate, or advanced are indicated. The books are divided into categories, but may be appropriate for multiple categories. The categories include: (1) U.S. history, culture, and life, (2) world history and cultures, (3) geography and the examination of origins, (4) folktales, myths, legends, stories, and storytelling, (5) poetry and songs, (6) biography and autobiography, and (7) understanding oneself and others. The members of the subcommittee who evaluated and selected the books are noted. (JB)

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Notable 1988 Children's Trade Books In the Field of Social Studies

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Notable 1988 Children's Trade Books In the Field of Social Studies

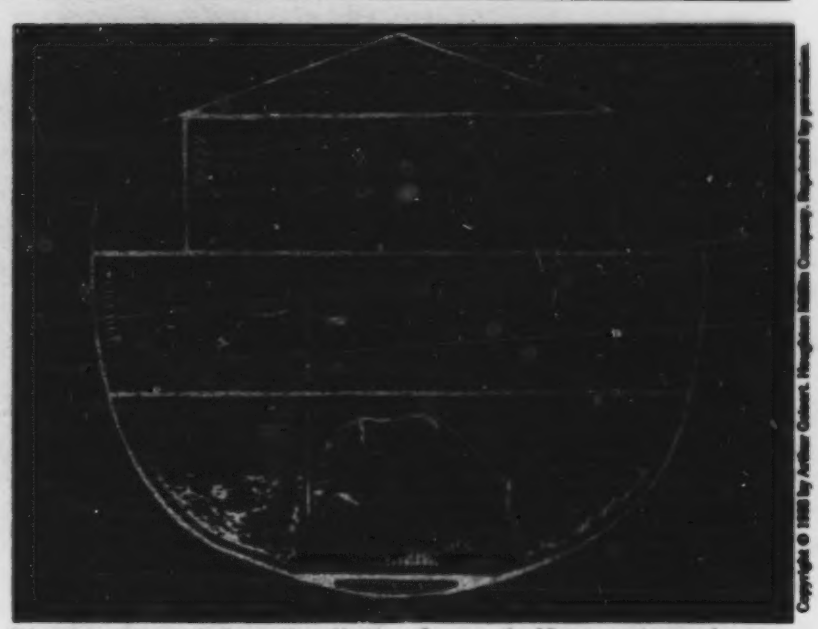
The books appearing in this annual bibliography were evaluated and selected by the Book Review Subcommittee of the National Council for the Social Studies—Children's Book Council (CBC) Joint Committee. In general, books selected for this bibliography (1) are written primarily for children in grades K–8; (2) emphasize human relations; (3) present an original theme or a fresh slant on a traditional topic; (4) are highly readable; and (5) have a pleasing format and, when appropriate, illustration.

All titles selected for the list were published in 1988. Reading levels are indicated as P = Primary; I = Intermediate; A = Advanced. These levels are general guidelines only and are not meant to be prescriptive. Books are read by several committee members; annotations do not reflect the judgment of all committee members.

Prices are accurate as of January 1989, but subject to change. Information on paper editions is given when known. The symbol 'F' following a paper edition indicates it is forthcoming.

Publishers' names appear in abbreviated form; complete names and addresses are available in such standard reference works as *Literary Market Place* (Bowker). International Standard Book Numbers (ISBNs) are included. If a publisher has both a library and trade edition, the ISBN for the library edition is included. Many titles on this list are appropriate for more than one of our categories; they have been placed where their usefulness in social studies education appears greatest.

Book Review Subcommittee members, whose initials appear at the end of the annotations for which they were responsible, are Arlene F. Gallagher (Boston University, Massachusetts); Alvis T. Harthern (Early Childhood Department, West Georgia College, Carrollton, Georgia); William Jay Jacobs (Coordinator, History and Social Sciences, Darien, Connecticut, Public Schools); Walter H. Klar (Social Studies Education, Framingham State College, Massachusetts); Susan D. Sciascia (Supervisor, Language Arts and Social Studies, Clarkstown Central School District, West Nyack, New York); Christina B. Woll (Library Consultant, Palacios, Texas); Judith S. Wooster (Director, Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education, Stanford University, California); Myra Zarnowski (Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education, Queens College, New York); and Jack Zevin (Professor of Social Studies Education, Queens College, New York). The coordinator of the selection committee's work is Jeanette Brod, Assistant Vice President, Children's Book Council.



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Gold and Silver, Silver and Gold: Tales of Hidden Treasure by Alvin Schwartz with pictures by David Christiana. Text copyright © 1988 by Alvin Schwartz. Pictures copyright © 1988 by David Christiana. Reprinted by permission of Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Inc.

AMERICAN HISTORY, CULTURE, AND LIFE

Always to Remember: The Story of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Brent Ashabranner. Illustrated with photographs by Jennifer Ashabranner. Dodd, Mead/Putnam. 112 pp. ISBN 0-396-09089-3. $12.95. (I & A.) A poignant photo essay, with splendid black-and-white photographs, tells of the crusade of Jan C. Scruggs, the Vietnam veteran who spearheaded the drive for a memorial, of Maya Ying Lin, the architectural student whose memorial design was chosen, and of the effect of the memorial on those who visit it. Bibliography. Index. ATH

Be Ever Hopeful, Hannalee. Patricia Beatty. Morrow. 224 pp. ISBN 0-688-07502-9. $11.95. (A.) A touching historical novel of a poor Southern family who move to a ruined Atlanta, Georgia, at the end of the Civil War, told by a competent, sensitive, and brave 14-year-old heroine. A sequel to *Turn Homeward, Hannalee.* JZ

The Bone Wars. Kathryn Lasky. Morrow. 384 pp. ISBN 0-688-07433-2. $11.95. (I & A.) In the late 1800s, gold seekers and bone-seeking archaeologists posed threats to Native Americans in the prairies and badlands. Ambitious, historical fiction that weaves familiar figures such as General Custer, Wild Bill Cody, Chief Crazy Horse, and Calamity Jane into the adventures of young scout Thad and Julian, the son of an English paleontologist. Bibliography. JSW

Breaker. N.A. Perez. Houghton. 216 pp. ISBN 0-395-45537-5. $13.95. (I.) Set in a Pennsylvania coal-mining town at the turn of the century, this fictional account of 14-year-old Pat McFarlane's life as a slate picker is enriched by historical details about early labor organizing. Includes a portrait of prejudice toward immigrants who come to work the mines. JSW

Reprinted from Social Education, April/May 1989, Volume 53, Number 4. Copyright 1989 by the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS).

Cassie's Journey: Going West in the 1860s. Brett Harvey. Illustrated by Deborah Kogan Ray. Holiday House. 40 pp. ISBN 0-8234-0684-9. $12.95. (P & I.) Cassie related the dangers, hardships, and struggles encountered by her family in the 1860s, as they migrate westward to California in a covered wagon. Easy text based on actual accounts of such journeys is complemented by impressionistic, black-and-white drawings. ATH

A Circle Unbroken. Sollace Hotze. Clarion. 208 pp. ISBN 0-89919-733-7. $13.95. (I & A.) In 1838, at age eight, Rachel Porter was captured by Sioux who had been ostracized by their tribe. She is brought up by the chief as his daughter until her father gets her back seven years later. Offended by the idea that she lived with heathens, he burns her clothes and forbids her to speak about her life with the Sioux. Inspired by historical incidents. AFG

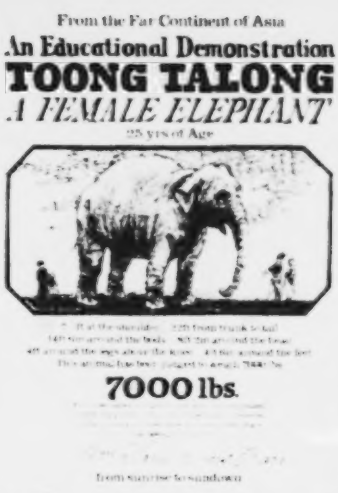
Fallen Angels. Walter Dean Myers. Scholastic. 320 pp. ISBN 0-590-40942-5. $12.95. Paper ed., Scholastic. ISBN 0-590-40943-3. $3.50. (A.) In 1967, seventeen-year-old Richie Perry spends a devastating year in Vietnam. Dedicated to Myers' brother who died there, the novel is not easy to read because rough language, body bags, and horror are included. A testimony to the thousands of young adults who fought and died in Vietnam, these stories recall what was lost. AFG

Family Farm. Thomas Locker. Illustrated by the author. Dial. 32 pp. ISBN 0-8037-0490-9. $14.89. (P.) When the local school closes and corn and milk prices continue to fall, dad gets a job at the factory and the family decides to plant pumpkins and flowers. An exquisite picture book that presents the grandeur and the hardships one family experiences over a year's time on a small, midwestern farm. WHK

The First Book of Baseball. Marty Appel. Illustrated with photographs and prints. Crown. 96 pp. ISBN 0-517-56726-1. $9.95. (I & A.) A concise, factual account of baseball presented with humor a young reader may enjoy. Its pages are filled with the history, records, rules, and some of the highlights of this American pastime. Will improve any novice's understanding and will hold the attention of a fan. Glossary. Index. SDS

From Abenaki to Zuni: A Dictionary of Native American Tribes. Evelyn Wolfson. Illustrated by William Sauts Bock. Walker. 216 pp. ISBN 0-8027-6790-7. $18.95. (I & A.) A useful, informative reference work on 68 Native American tribes. Line drawings enhance the narrative, portraying tribal customs, food, clothing, and means of travel. Glossary. Bibliography. Index. WJJ

Hannah's Farm: The Seasons on an Early American Homestead. Michael McCurdy. Illustrated by the author. Holiday House. 32 pp. ISBN 0-8234-0700-4. $12.95. (P.) Seasonal changes dictate daily activities on a 19th-century farm in the Berkshire Hills of Massachusetts. A young girl is at the center of this romantic vision of rural life. Powerful woodcuts evoke rugged, frontier life. JZ



Illustrated in black-and-white by Donald Carrick

Island Boy. Barbara Cooney. Illustrated by the author. Viking. 32 pp. ISBN 0-670-81749-X. $14.95. Paper ed., Puffin (F). (P & I.) Tracing New England's history, culture, societal changes, and family ties through four generations of Tibbetts fosters understanding and awakens feelings of pride in American heritage. Story line presents the cycle of life with sensitivity and realism. SDS

The Jews of New Amsterdam. Eva Deutsch Costabel. Illustrated by the author. Atheneum. 32 pp. ISBN 0-689-31351-9. $13.95. (P & I.) The 23 Jews who arrived in New Amsterdam from Brazil in 1654 caused apprehension in the Dutch, and subsequently British, colony. Excellent account that helps to balance the misperception that America was a land of freedom and equality for all groups in colonial times. Appealing illustrations. JSW

Monticello. Leonard Everett Fisher. Illustrated with archival photographs and prints, and photographs and drawings by the author. Holiday House. 64 pp. ISBN 0-8234-0688-1. $12.95. (I & A.) A direct, unadorned narrative combined with black-and-white photographs details Thomas Jefferson's architectural passion. The book captures the restraint, balance, and harmony of the American Enlightenment, and is testimony to the statesman's quest for a life based on equilibrium and reason. Index. WJJ

The One-Room School at Squabble Hollow. Rosmarie Hausherr. Illustrated with photographs by the author. Four Winds. 80 pp. ISBN 0-02-743250-5. $14.95. (P & I.) A one-room school, like the one at Squabble Hollow in rural Vermont, is a vanishing institution that provides closeness between teacher, students, and families, and a dynamic mix of students of different ages. The black-and-white essay captures the uniqueness of the school and evokes our educational history. MZ

Out from This Place. Joyce Hansen. Walker. 144 pp. ISBN 0-8027-6817-2. $14.85. (I & A.) The Civil War and Reconstruction presented unique challenges to ex-slaves. In this moving story, one determined black woman must discover for herself where the path away from slavery leads. Easter's conflicting goals, problems, and opportunities help readers understand the hardships and appreciate the inner resourcefulness of the newly freed population. A companion novel to *Which Way Freedom?* MZ

Prisons: A System in Trouble. Ann E. Weiss. Enslow. 160 pp. ISBN 0-89490-165-6. $14.95. (A.) A thoroughly researched, well-written study of the criminal justice system. A topic of national concern is examined in a valuable addition to the study of civics. Glossary. Bibliography. Index. WHK

The War for Independence: The Story of the American Revolution. Albert Marrin. Illustrated with prints and maps. Atheneum. 288 pp. ISBN 0-689-31390-X. $14.95. (A.) A useful, carefully researched account of the Revolutionary War period that includes well-grounded judgments about such key personalities as George Washington and Thomas Paine. Excellent selection of prints, black-and-white maps, and paintings. Bibliography. Index. WJJ

War Nurses. Shaaron Cosner. Illustrated with photographs and prints. Walker. 120 pp. ISBN 0-8027-6828-8. $17.85. (I & A.) A much needed introduction to contributions of military war nurses, beginning with the American Civil War. Provides especially useful insights into the complex, frequently hazardous exploits of nurses in the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. Index. WJJ

Illustrated with black-and-white drawings by Erika Weihs

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WORLD HISTORY AND CULTURES

And Shira Imagined. Giora Carmi. Jewish Publication Society. 32 pp. ISBN 0-8276-0288-X. $13.95. (P.) A trip to Israel comes to life for a young girl as her parents take her on a tour of famous places that are loosely rendered in black line drawings. At each site, the young tourist imagines, in full color, a mixture of fantasy and reality, past and present, peopled with toys that come to life. JZ

The Boy from Over There. Tamar Bergman; translated from the Hebrew by Hillel Halkin. Houghton. 192 pp. ISBN 0-395-43077-1. $12.95. (I & A.) Set in the Jordan Valley in 1947, this translation of an award-winning novel details the impact of Israel's War for Independence on families and, in particular, the children of one kibbutz. In the shadow of World War II, childhood rivalries and jealousies, lack of privacy, and cultural and language differences create added tensions. JSW

China's Long March: 6,000 Miles of Danger. Jean Fritz. Illustrated by Yang Zhr Cheng and with maps. Putnam. 128 pp. ISBN 0-399-21512-3. $14.95. (I & A.) Traces the 1934–1935 journey of Mao Zedong's First Front Army as it retreated from Nationalist forces and sought a base area in which it could safely expand. The author's 1986 trip to China to talk with survivors informs the retelling of the events of the yearlong march. Bibliography. Index. CBW

The Devil's Arithmetic. Jane Yolen. Viking. 176 pp. ISBN 0-670-81027-4. $11.95. Paper ed., Puffin (F). (I & A.) Time travel moves restless, 12-year-old Hannah from a contemporary Passover Seder to a Polish village in the early 1940s. With a consciousness in each time period, Hannah grows in maturity and understanding as Nazi soldiers transport her and her shtetl relatives to a death camp. CBW

The King of Prussia and a Peanut Butter Sandwich. Alice Fleming. Illustrated by Ronald Himler. Scribner. 48 pp. ISBN 0-684-18880-5. $12.95. (I.) A lively, historical narrative traces the path of the Mennonites from Prussia, to the Russian Steppes, and finally to the state of Kansas. These hardworking immigrants brought with them the Turkey Red wheat seed they so carefully developed. An interesting look at one group's immigrational history. Includes an author's note. Index. MZ

From *Black City* © 1988 illustrations by Ashley Wolff (Dutton)

Round Buildings, Square Buildings, and Buildings That Wiggle Like a Fish. Philip M. Isaacson. Illustrated with photographs by the author. Knopf. 128 pp. ISBN 0-394-99382-9. $16.99. (I & A.) A lyrical text and more than 100 striking, full-color photographs explore architectural styles around the world. The appealing photo essay uses comparisons and contrasts in chapters about walls, pathways, doorways, ornaments, and shapes. CBW

Sir Dana: A Knight, as Told by His Trusty Armor. Dana Fradon. Illustrated by the author. Dutton. 40 pp. ISBN 0-525-44424-6. $12.95. (I.) A memorable presentation of the days of knighthood in a format that enthusiastically meshes humor and information. During a class visit to the medieval room of a museum, the group encounters a talkative suit of armor. CBW

The Smithsonian Book of Flight for Young People. Walter J. Boyne. Illustrated with photographs and prints. Atheneum. 128 pp. ISBN 0-689-31422-1. $16.95. Paper ed., Aladdin. ISBN 0-689-71212-X. $9.95. (I & A.) An informed narrative links well-chosen, black-and-white, and full-color photographs, some of great beauty, in a notable collection of aviation nostalgia and history. A concluding section projects the future of manned flight into space. Bibliography. Index. WJJ

To Life. Ruth Minsky Sender. Macmillan. 240 pp. ISBN 0-02-781831-4. $14.95. (A.) A powerful, poetic account of the problems and terrors faced by Jewish survivors of World War II. A startling, fictionalized memoir presents content less frequently included in literature for young people.

A Voice from Japan: An Outsider Looks In. Carolyn Meyer. Gulliver/HBJ 240 pp. ISBN 0-15-200633-8. $14.95. (A.) An attempt to view a very formal culture from the inside by an American visitor who talked with and observed teenagers as they related to each other, their parents, their schools, and their society. An acquaintance with Japanese youth leads to some surprises that confirm and undermine stereotyped notions. Glossary. Bibliography. Index. JZ

GEOGRAPHY AND THE EXAMINATION OF ORIGINS

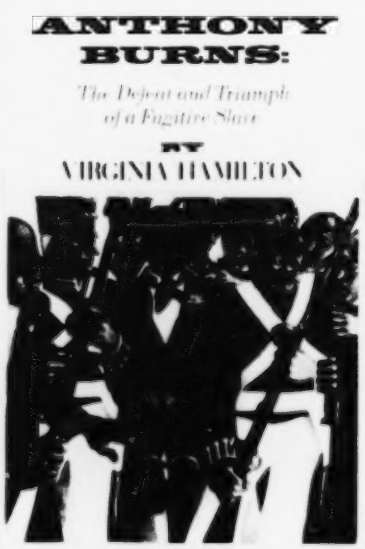
Don't Sing before Breakfast, Don't Sleep in the Moonlight: Everyday Superstitions and How They Began. Lila Perl. Illustrated by Erika Weihs. Clarion. 96 pp. ISBN 0-89919-504-9. $13.95. (I & A.) Several hundred superstitions are examined and the intriguing origins of many of them are briefly explained. The good-humored text is worldwide in scope. Bibliography. Index. CBW

From Map to Museum: Uncovering Mysteries of the Past. Joan Anderson. Illustrated with photographs by George Ancona. Morrow. 64 pp. ISBN 0-688-06915-0. $11.88. (I & A.) A black-and-white photo essay that accompanies American Museum of Natural History curator David Hurst Thomas on an archaeological expedition to St. Catherines Island, off the Georgia coast, and follows artifacts found there from discovery to museum display. Glossary. Index. CBW

Hominids: A Look Back at Our Ancestors. Helen Roney Sattler. Illustrated by Christoper Santoro. Lothrop. 128 pp. ISBN 0-688-06061-7. $15.95. (I & A.) A well-documented, interesting, chronological discussion of physical and cultural data inferred from fossils of early human ancestors. Includes effective sepia illustrations and a time chart. Bibliography. Index. JSW

The Igloo. Charlotte Yue and David Yue. Illustrated by David Yue. Houghton. 128 pp. ISBN 0-395-44613-9. $13.95. (I & A.) Describes how an igloo is constructed and its role in the lives of the Eskimo people. Discussion of the impact of Arctic climate on Eskimo culture and challenges to the Eskimo people in today's world are included. Bibliography. Index. CBW

A Kid's Catalog of Israel. Chaya M. Burstein. Illustrated by the author. Paper ed., Jewish Publication Society. 280 pp. ISBN 0-8276-0263-4. $12.95. (I & A.) A potpourri of information about Israel's geography, population, historical figures, holidays, crafts, and stories. A celebration of Israeli culture and heritage written with humor and insight. Suggests numerous projects for readers. An excellent book for browsing. Glossary. Bibliography. Index. MZ



From *Anthony Burns* © 1988 by Virginia Hamilton. Jacket art copyright © 1988 by Leo and Ann Dillon (Knopf).

© 1988 by Christopher Santoro, courtesy of Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, a division of William Morrow.

Mojave. Diana Siebert. Illustrated by Wendell Minor. Crowell. 32 pp. ISBN 0-690-04569-7. $13.89. (P & I.) Beautiful, full-color illustrations and poetic text portray the essence of the Mojave Desert. Excellent supplement to geographic themes of location, place, and environment. JSW

Rain Forest. Helen Cowcher. Illustrated by the author. Farrar. 32 pp. ISBN 0-374-36167-3. $13.95. (P.) The animals that inhabit the rain forest sense the threat of something more powerful than Jaguar. Dramatic, simple text and colorful, bold illustrations depict the disaster caused by the arrival of man and machines. ATH

Seth of the Lion People. Bonnie Pryor. Morrow. 128 pp. ISBN 0-688-07327-1. $11.95. (I.) Seth, an orphan boy with a withered leg, leaves his cave clan and makes his home with the Goat People. He returns to the Lion People to persuade the hunters that a better life as an agrarian society is possible. A portrait of our prehistoric past. WHK

Tracking Wild Chimpanzees. Joyce Powzyk. Illustrated by the author. Lothrop. 32 pp. ISBN 0-688-06734-4. $13.88. (I.) A beautiful presentation of findings from a naturalist's field trip to Burundi's Kibira National Park documents the lives of chimpanzees and information about their natural habitat. A reminder that the preservation of wildlife warrants everyone's concern. Glossary. Index of animals. WHK

Venice: Birth of a City. Piero Ventura; translated from the Italian by John Grisewood. Illustrated by the author. Putnam. 40 pp. ISBN 0-399-21531-X. $13.95. (I.) An unpretentious, charming look at the fascinating history of Venice. Detailed, full-color illustrations capture the port's development and spectacular pageantry, festivals, art, and architecture. WJJ

FOLKTALES, MYTHS, LEGENDS, STORIES, AND STORYTELLING

The Ark. Arthur Geisert. Illustrated by the author. Houghton. 48 pp. ISBN 0-395-43078-X. $15.95. (P.) Exquisitely detailed, etched illustrations and simple text guide the interpretation of the biblical story of Noah and the ark. Of particular interest are the many cutaways of the ark's interior. ATH

The Boy of the Three-Year Nap. Dianne Snyder. Illustrated by Allen Say. Houghton. 32 pp. ISBN 0-395-44090-4. $14.95. (P & I.) The mother of a lazy boy capitalizes on his plan to realize her own. This trickster tale's fine timing and pacing make it an excellent read-aloud. Outstanding, full-color illustrations in this Caldecott Honor Book portray traditional Japanese homes and ways of living. JSW

The Chimaera. Bernard Evslin. Illustrated with prints. Chelsea House. 108 pp. ISBN 1-55546-244-8. $19.95. (I & A.) To win the fair Anteia from the King of Tiryns, a strange and horrible creature must be outwitted and defeated. In a flight of mythic and sometimes terrifying proportions, the hero, Bellerophon, faces the monster on the great winged horse Pegasus. A retelling at once whimsical and frightening that is illustrated with a wide variety of fine art prints. JZ

The Dawn Palace: The Story of Medea. H.M. Hoover. Dutton. 256 pp. ISBN 0-525-44388-6. $15.95. (A.) Thirteen-year-old Medea, trained in supernatural knowledge, is in a unique position to help when the Greek hero Jason comes searching for the Golden Fleece. "People want enchantment, myth and magic," Circe tells Medea, because "it frees them from responsibility ... what is unnatural is beyond their control." A richly detailed story of a heroine that goes far beyond the classic myth. AFG

Gold and Silver, Silver and Gold: Tales of Hidden Treasure. Collected and retold by Alvin Schwartz. Illustrated by David Christiana. Farrar. 144 pp. ISBN 0-374-32690-8. $13.95. (I & A.) Legend, folklore, fact, and fiction combine in this compilation of 25 brief works having to do with buried treasure. Emphasis is on stories of the Western Hemisphere. Illustrated in black-and-white. Notes and sources are appended. Bibliography. CBW

Iduna and the Magic Apples. Marianna Mayer. Illustrated by Laszlo Gal. Macmillan. 40 pp. ISBN 0-02-765120-7. $16.95. (P & I.) The Norse myth tells of a threat of evil to the goddess Iduna, symbol of springtime and guardian of a golden chest of apples that keeps the gods of Valhalla immortal. Magnificent, full-color illustrations convey the rich mystical quality of this excellent adaptation. JSW

Iktomi and the Boulder: A Plains Indian Story. Retold by Paul Goble. Illustrated by the reteller. Orchard. 32 pp.

ISBN 0-531-08360-8. $13.99. (P.) Iktomi, a Plains Indian mischief-maker, recruits buffalo, bears, prairie dogs, and bats to free him from the grip of a large, stubborn boulder. A satisfying tale explains why bats have flattened faces and why there are rocks scattered all over the Great Plains. Colorful illustrations and creative graphic design. CBW

In the Beginning: Creation Stories from around the World. Virginia Hamilton. Illustrated by Barry Moser. HBJ. 176 pp. ISBN 0-15-238740-4. $18.95. (I & A.) A handsome collection of 25 vastly different myths from various parts of the world explain how the world was created. The reader feels a connection to other peoples because of the universality of the subject. The myths give insight into how diverse cultures view themselves. A Newbery Honor Book. Bibliography. AFG

King of the Birds. Shirley Climo. Illustrated by Ruth Heller. Crowell. 32 pp. ISBN 0-690-04623-5. $12.89. (P.) When a clever wren uses his wits to earn the title of King of the Birds, he brings peace to the squabbling bird kingdom. Vibrant illustrations give flight to the legend. WHK

The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush. Retold by Tomie dePaola. Illustrated by the reteller. Putnam. 40 pp. ISBN 0-399-21534-4. $13.95. Paper ed., Putnam (F). (P.) Little Gopher, who uses his special gift to record his people's history on painted animal skins, finally achieves his Dream-Vision of capturing on canvas the colors of the sunset. Simple text and colorful, uncluttered, illustrations retell the legend of how Little Gopher's paintbrushes are transformed into the brilliantly colorful western flower. ATH

The Legend of the White Doe. William H. Hooks. Illustrated by Dennis Nolan. Macmillan. 48 pp. ISBN 0-02-744350-7. $13.95. (I.) A fanciful, romantic tale about the fate of Virginia Dare, the first English child born in the New World. She and a small band of her countrymen vanished into the wilderness, leaving behind them only the word CROATOAN carved on a post. Dramatic, full-color illustrations. WJJ

Mirandy and Brother Wind. Patricia C. McKissack. Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. Knopf. 32 pp. ISBN 0-394-98765-9. 13.99. (P.) Mirandy tries to catch Brother Wind for her partner in the cakewalk. In an enthralling story, beautiful dialogue and soft, full-color illustrations capture the rapport and spirit of magic between the generations. A Caldecott Honor Book. SDS

More Tales of Uncle Remus: Further Adventures of Brer Rabbit, His Friends, Enemies, and Others. Julius Lester. Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. Dial. 160 pp. ISBN 0-8037-0420-8. $14.89. (I & A.) The introduction to this captivating collection of 37 retellings argues that Brer Rabbit represents more than an allegorical response to slavery by black people. In these trickster tales filled with myth, fun, mischief, and disorder, we see a part of ourselves, of all people, necessary to the wholeness of life. Bibliography. WJJ

FROM MAP TO MUSEUM

Uncovering Mysteries of the Past

By Joan Anderson, Photographs by George Ancona

Introduction by Dr. David Hurst Thomas
Curator of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History

Morrow Junior Books, New York

Photograph © 1988 by George Ancona, courtesy of Morrow Junior Books, a division of William Morrow.

The Outlaws of Sherwood. Robin McKinley. Greenwillow. 288 pp. ISBN 0-688-07178-3. $11.95. (A.) A novelization of the story of Robin Hood and his merry men and women. A very forceful, clever Maid Marian helps a troubled Robin overcome self-doubts and adjust to life in the forest as a Saxon renegade who abandoned polite, upper-crust Norman English society. JZ

Princess Gorilla and a New Kind of Water: A Mpongwe Tale. Retold by Verna Aardema. Illustrated by Victoria Chess. Dial. 32 pp. ISBN 0-8037-0413-5. $10.89. (P.) When King Gorilla discovers a barrel of vinegar, he declares that whoever can drink the strange water will marry Princess Gorilla. The cleverness of the victor in this entertaining African tale delights young readers. SDS

Rechenka's Eggs. Patricia Polacco. Illustrated by the author. Philomel. 32 pp. ISBN 0-399-21501-8. $13.95. (P.) Babushka's beautiful, painted eggs always win first prize at the Easter Festival. When the injured goose she cares for knocks over the basket of precious eggs, their replacements are miraculous tokens of friendship and caring. The festivals of Old Moscow come to life in this beautiful addition to a folklore collection. WHK

Rip Van Winkle. Adapted by Thomas Locker. Illustrated by the adapter. Dial. 32 pp. ISBN 0-8037-0521-2. $15.89. (P & I.) Unusually beautiful, full-color paintings lend a timeless quality to a lovely retelling of Washington Irving's tale of a lazy man who slept for 20 years. Illustrations contribute to the authenticity and mood of the Catskill Mountains setting. WJJ

The Rumor of Pavel and Paali: A Ukranian Folktale. Adapted by Carole Kismaric. Illustrated by Charles Mikolaycak. Harper. 32 pp. ISBN 0-06-023278-1. $13.89. (P & I.) In a poignant retelling of a classic Ukranian folktale, twin brothers wager on whether it is better to do good than evil. Kind, generous Paali loses the wager to his cruel brother, but eventually wins a greater triumph. A haunting story told and illustrated in full color with grace and dignity. WJJ

The Seal Oil Lamp. Adapted by Dale DeArmond. Illustrated by the adapter. Sierra Club/Little, Brown. 48 pp. ISBN 0-316-17786-5. $13.95. (P, I, & A.) A seven-year-old Eskimo boy is left to die because his blindness will make him a burden to the village. A handsome adaptation of an Eskimo folktale of despair and triumph. Black-and-white woodcuts portray Eskimo life in harmony with nature. WHK

The Story of Wali Dâd. Retold by Kristana Rodanas. Illustrated by the reteller. Lothrop. 32 pp. ISBN 0-688-07263-1. $13.88. (P & I.) Wali Dâd's selfless acts complicate the simple life he struggles to maintain. A lavishly illustrated tale from India that is based on Andrew Lang's *Brown Fairy Book* version. WHK

Theseus and the Minotaur. Leonard Everett Fisher. Illustrated by the author. Holiday. 32 pp. ISBN 0-8234-0703-9. $14.95. (P & I.) Theseus' life is recounted in a stark, moving retelling of the Greek legend of the prince who slayed the monster of the labyrinth. JZ

The Tsar and the Amazing Cow. J. Patrick Lewis. Illustrated by Friso Henstra. Dial. 32 pp. ISBN 0-8037-0411-9. $11.89. (P.) Buryonka, the faithful cow of an old, Russian peasant couple, suddenly gives magic milk which brings youth and happiness to the couple, but disaster to the wicked, greedy Tsar who demands the cow be brought to his Grand Palace in St. Petersburg. Muted, full-colored illustrations create an Old World look. ATH

Where the Wild Geese Go. Meredith Ann Pierce. Illustrated by Jamichael Henterly. Dutton. 60 pp. ISBN 0-525-44379-7. $15.00. (I.) Truzjka leaves her grandmother's hut to discover where the wild geese go. Beautiful, full-color illustrations enhance a fanciful, original quest tale. WHK

POETRY AND SONGS

Block City. Robert Louis Stevenson. Illustrated by Ashley Wolff. Dutton. 32 pp. ISBN 0-525-44399-1. $12.95. (P.) Bold, full-color illustrations and the words of Stevenson's classic poem enable the reader to enter the world of a youngster engaged in block building. An entertaining picture book. SDS

Canterbury Tales. Selected, translated,

and adapted by Barbara Cohen. Illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman. Lothrop. 88 pp. ISBN 0-688-06201-6. $17.95. (I & A.) And ***The Canterbury Tales.*** Selected and retold by Selina Hastings. Illustrated by Reg Cartwright. Holt. 72 pp. ISBN 0-8050-0904-3. $17.95. (I & A.) Two retellings in contemporary, accessible prose of the 14th-century *Canterbury Tales*, one of the greatest narrative poems in the English language. Both are lavishly illustrated in distinctly different styles, and offer tantalizing introductions to Geoffrey Chaucer, "father of English poetry." Both books include "The Nun's Priest's Tale," "The Pardoner's Tale," "The Wife of Bath's Tale," and "The Franklin's Tale." Hastings has also included "The Knight's Tale, "The Miller's Tale," and "The Reeve's Tale." AFG

The Farmer in the Dell: A Singing Game. Retold by Mary Maki Rae. Illustrated by the reteller. Viking. 32 pp. ISBN 0-670-81853-4. $11.95. Paper ed., Puffin (F). (P.) A beautifully presented book that introduces the traditional rhyme to a new generation. Expressive, full-color illustrations add to a young reader's delight. Includes music and suggestions on how to play the singing game. SDS

Follow the Drinking Gourd. Jeanette Winter. Illustrated by the author. Knopf. 48 pp. ISBN 0-394-99694-1. $13.99. (P & I.) Peg Leg Joe, a legendary one-legged sailor, teaches plantation slaves the way to freedom in the North with the lyrics of a song that contain directions to the Underground Railway. Readers follow one family's flight. Unusual, full-color illustrations in the tradition of American folk art. Includes music and a historical note. WJJ

General Store. Rachel Field. Illustrated by Giles Laroche. Little, Brown. 32 pp. ISBN 0-316-28163-8. $14.95. (P.) And ***General Store.*** Rachel Field. Illustrated by Nancy Winslow Parker. Greenwillow. 24 pp. ISBN 0-688-07354-9. $11.88. (P.) Two distinct picture books that illustrate the early 20th-century, now-nostalgic poem recall a bygone style of merchandising. Full-color illustrations pace the poem differently and create a unique vision of the past. SDS

Tom Glazer's Treasury of Songs for Children. Compiled by Tom Glazer. Illustrated by John O'Brien. Paper spiral ed., Doubleday. 256 pp. ISBN 0-385-23693-X. $14.95. (P, I, & A.) Words and sheet music for 130 of America's favorite songs are presented with pertinent, historical annotations. A reissue of a folk song anthology with new, blue line illustrations. Fun for adults and children alike. Bibliography. Index of first lines. SDS

BIOGRAPHY AND AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Anne Frank: Life in Hiding. Johanna Hurwitz. Illustrated by Vera Rosenberry. Jewish Publication Society. 68 pp. ISBN 0-8276-0311-8. $10.95. (I & A.) A moving telling of Anne Frank's years in hiding in Amsterdam during World War II. A final chapter in the strong narrative tells of the publication of Anne's celebrated diary. Chronology. Index. CBW

Anthony Burns: The Defeat and Triumph of a Fugitive Slave. Virginia Hamilton. Knopf. 208 pp. ISBN 0-394-98185-5. $12.99. (A.) Anthony Burns, a slave, escapes to Boston in 1854, only to be reclaimed by his master under the Fugitive Slave Act. When abolitionists rush to Burns' defense, the result is courtroom and street-corner drama, brought vividly to life in a historical reconstruction by a master storyteller. Includes selections from the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. Bibliography. Index. WJJ

Archbishop Tutu of South Africa. Judith Bentley. Enslow. 96 pp. ISBN 0-89490-180-X. $12.95. (A.) A solid biography of the great South African Archbishop of the Anglican Church who has spent his entire life working to oppose and change the system of apartheid in his nation. Chronology. Glossary. Bibliography. Index. JZ

Behind Rebel Lines: The Incredible Story of Emma Edmonds, Civil War Spy. Seymour Reit. Gulliver/HBJ. 112 pp. ISBN 0-15-200416-2. $12.95. (I & A.) The Civil War comes to life through the story of Emma Edmonds, soldier, spy, and nurse who first fought in the Union Army, then served as a spy while working in Confederate field hospitals. Throughout the war, she posed as a man and struggled to keep her real identity and sex a secret. Bibliography. JZ

Born Different: Amazing Stories of Very Special People. Frederick Drimmer. Illustrated with prints and photographs. Atheneum. 192 pp. ISBN 0-689-31360-8. $13.95. Paper ed., Bantam (F). (A.) Intriguing stories of some of the world's most unusual people. Each overcame physical handicaps to become famous and sometimes exploited as theater "freaks." Included are luminaries like the Siamese Twins, Tom Thumb, and The Man with No Arms. Bibliography. Index. JZ

A Girl from Yamhill: A Memoir. Beverly Cleary. Illustrated with photographs. Morrow. 288 pp. ISBN 0-688-07800-1. $14.95. Paper ed., Dell. ISBN 0-440-40185-2. $3.95. (I & A.) A well-written memoir that offers interesting insights into the life of a popular children's book author and growing up in Portland, Oregon, during the Depression. JSW

Little by Little: A Writer's Education. Jean Little. Illustrated with photographs. Viking. 240 pp. ISBN 0-670-81649-3. $11.95. (I & A.) An autobiography by Canadian author Jean Little in which she describes the roots of her writing career. Despite having "bad eyes," she manages to graduate from college, begin a teaching career, and become a published author. A tender, frank remembrance of her family and early enthusiasm for literature. MZ

Long Ago When I Was Young. E. Nesbit. Illustrated by Edward Ardizzone and George Buchanan. Dial. 136 pp. ISBN 0-8037-0476-3. $14.95. (A.) A collection of whimsical, amusing, and often subtle reminiscences by the beloved British author of children's stories. Readers learn much about Edith Nesbit's times (1858–1924) and absorbing personality. WJJ

Lost Star: The Story of Amelia Earhart. Patricia Lauber. Illustrated with prints and photographs. Scholastic. 112 pp. ISBN 0-590-41615-4. $10.95. Paper ed., Scholastic (F). (I.) A well-written biography of the famous female aviator who disappeared mysteriously in 1937. Amelia Earhart's is a name associated with grand adventures; a name to rank with great heroines; and a name to inspire high ideals and the pursuit of a dream. Bibliography. Index. WHK

Marian Anderson. Charles Patterson. Illustrated with photographs. Watts. 170 pp. ISBN 0-531-10568-7. $12.90. (A.) A well-designed biography provides insight into the intense personal effort and unfailing determination that Marian Anderson maintained before she received recognition and accolades for her singing talent. Among her many achievements is her 1955 appearance as the first black soloist to perform with the Metropolitan Opera Company. Bibliography. Index. SDS

Matthew Henson. Michael Gilman. Illustrated with photographs, prints, and maps. Chelsea House. 112 pp. ISBN 1-55546-590-0. $16.95. Paper ed., Chelsea House. ISBN 0-7910-0207-1. $9.95. (A.) A well-written, fascinating story about the vision, accomplishments, courage, and fortitude of explorer Matthew Henson, who accompanied Robert Peary on expeditions to the Arctic over a period of 18 years. Excellent, significant black-and-white photographs with informational captions enhance the biography from the "Black Americans of Achievement" series. Chronology. Bibliography. Index. JSW

Robert E. Lee. Manfred Weidhorn. Illustrated with photographs and prints. Atheneum. 160 pp. ISBN 0-689-31340-3. $13.95. (A.) A sympathetic portrait of the Confederate general whose loyalty to his state, sense of decency, and hard-driving determination enabled him to inspire an army that was greatly outnumbered. A fascinating view of the American Civil War from the perspective of a key Southern figure. Bibliography. Index. MZ

Satchel Paige. Kathryn Long Humphrey. Illustrated with photographs. Watts. 128 pp. ISBN 0-531-10513-X. $12.90. (A.) The story of a black baseball player provides insight into American society before teams were integrated. No matter how great their skills, players had to stay on their side of the "color line" to play ball. Bibliography. Index. JZ

Shaka, King of the Zulus. Diane Stanley and Peter Vennema. Illustrated by Diane Stanley. Morrow. 40 pp. ISBN 0-688-07343-3. $12.88. (P & I.) A biographical account of Zulu warrior Shaka (1787–1828), who developed a well-disciplined army supplied with advanced weapons and equipment. The carefully researched and detailed, full-color illustrations convey accurate historical information about the daily life and values of the Zulu people at the time of European colonization. Bibliography. JSW

Starting from Home: A Writer's Beginnings. Milton Meltzer. Illustrated with photographs and prints. Viking. 160 pp. ISBN 0-670-81604-3. $13.95. (A.) The books, ideas, and events that shaped the life of one of America's premier writers for young readers. Appealing style chronicles the author's life from 1915 to 1932 and earlier family history. A splendid memoir. WJJ

Winnie Mandela: Life of Struggle. Jim Haskins. Illustrated with photographs. Putnam. 180 pp. ISBN 0-399-21515-8. $14.95. (A.) A biography that movingly describes the childhood and adult life of Winnie Mandela, activist against apartheid. Includes much background material about the South African struggle. Bibliography. Index. CBW

UNDERSTANDING ONESELF AND OTHERS

Always Gramma. Vaunda Micheaux Nelson. Illustrated by Kimanne Uhler. Putnam. 32 pp. ISBN 0-399-21542-5. $13.95. (P.) A young girl tells the story of her grandmother's increasing forgetfulness and eventual placement in a nursing home. Fond memories of the times grandmother and granddaughter shared remain an important part of the girl's life. A sensitive look at the problem of caring for an aging family member. MZ

A Balloon for Grandad. Nigel Gray. Illustrated by Jane Ray. Orchard. 32 pp. ISBN 0-531-08355-1. $13.99. (P.) A fanciful story that spans time and space to connect a grandson in Britain with a grandfather from another culture who lives in the Middle East. Full-page, full-color illustrations bridge the gap of distance and culture, drawing the generations together through the imaginative flight of a balloon. WHK

Black Star, Bright Dawn. Scott O'Dell. Houghton. 144 pp. ISBN 0-395-47778-6. $14.95. Paper ed., Fawcett (F). (I & A.) Eighteen-year-old Eskimo woman Bright Dawn runs the Iditarod dog-sled race of more than one thousand miles from Anchorage to Nome against blizzards and temperatures 60 degrees below zero. A story of survival, of people caught between two cultures, and of people helping one another. AFG

Changes in Latitudes. Will Hobbs. Atheneum. 176 pp. ISBN 0-689-31385-3. $13.95. (A.) Travis, somewhat of a contemporary Holden Caulfield, is on a trip to Mexico with his younger brother Teddy, his sister, and his mother. Teddy's consuming interest in endangered species leads the brothers to sea turtles that nest on a nearby beach, after which Teddy resolves to try to save them. Cultural stereotypes, government interference, economics, and concepts such as loyalty and betrayal are interwoven in a powerful, first-person, first novel. AFG

Grandpa's Face. Eloise Greenfield. Illustrated by Floyd Cooper. Philomel. 32 pp. ISBN 0-399-21525-5. $13.95. (P.) Tamika loves her grandfather, especially his face. It changes to express his many feelings, particularly his love for her. One day, while he is rehearsing before a mirror, Tamika sees his mean face and is frightened. He assures her that though his face may change, his love for her is enduring. Expressive, full-color pastel illustrations. ATH

Her Own Song. Ellen Howard. Atheneum. 176 pp. ISBN 0-689-31444-2. $12.95. (I.) Mellie has had two successive sets of adoptive parents, one Chinese and one American. In turn-of-the-century Seattle, the two families reach out to each other and are able to look beyond their vast cultural differences. A sensitive probing of universal needs for love and belonging. MZ

A Home. Nola Langner Malone. Illustrated by the author. Bradbury. 24 pp. ISBN 0-02-751440-4. $12.95. (P.) When Molly meets Miranda Marie, her new house begins to feel like a home. A portrait of a child's feelings in which expressive, full-color illustrations contribute to the enjoyment. SDS

The Jenny Summer. Carol Greene. Illustrated by Ellen Eagle. Harper. 80 pp. ISBN 0-06-022209-3. $11.89. (I.) Robin's summer is boring until Jenny's family moves in next door. The troubled life of a best friend's household is viewed through the heroine's eyes. When the girls are separated by circumstances, the reader empathizes with both. SDS

John Patrick Norman McHennessy: The Boy Who Was Always Late. John Burningham. Illustrated by the author. Crown. 32 pp. ISBN 0-517-568055. $12.95. (P.) A boy repeatedly presents his teacher with outrageous explanations for lateness. An engaging story that demonstrates the importance of openness to other perspectives, including those of children. The plain and simple truth should suffice. WHK

The King's Chessboard. David Birch. Illustrated by Devis Grebu. Dial. 32 pp. ISBN 0-8037-0367-8. $10.89. (P & I.) A vain king demands that a simple, wise man who has done him a service request a reward. The lesson learned is "how easy it is for pride to make a fool of anyone." Magnificent, full-color illustrations detailed in black line take the reader to ancient India. ATH

Lies, Deception, and Truth. Ann E. Weiss. Houghton. 160 pp. ISBN 0-395-40486-X. $13.95. (I & A.) An interesting, provocative analysis of the structure and function of lying, and its causes and effects, concludes with an argument in favor of honesty as a sometimes painful but usually cleansing policy for social relationships. Index. JZ

Changing Families: Meeting Today's Challenges. Kathlyn Gay. Enslow. 128 pp. ISBN 0-89490-139-7. $13.95. (I & A.) A frank discussion of the changing nature of families in America that considers such phenomena as families with more than one wage earner, families headed by a single parent, interracial families, and older families. A competent exploration of the many facets of contemporary family life. Includes a list of organizations helpful to families. Bibliography. Index. MZ

David and Max. Gary Provost and Gail Levine-Provost. Jewish Publication Society. 192 pp. ISBN 0-8276-0315-0. $12.95. (I.) While on a vacation in Newburyport, Massachusetts, Max sees a friend he had presumed died in the Holocaust. Grandson David pursues his grandfather's ghost, thereby strengthening the bond between the two. A heartwarming story of love between grandson and grandfather, each coming to terms with the Holocaust. WHK

The Elephant in the Dark. Carol Carrick. Illustrated by Donald Carrick. Clarion. 144 pp. ISBN 0-89919-757-4. $13.95. (I.) Caring for the first elephant to be seen in Massachusetts in the early 1800s gives Will self-respect and helps him get over his mother's death. He is devastated when it seems the elephant will be taken on the road again and he will be left behind. ATH

A Flight of Dazzle Angels. William H. Hooks. Macmillan. 176 pp. ISBN 0-02-744430-9. $13.95. (I & A.) Set in rural North Carolina in 1908, this novel centers on 15-year-old, clubfooted Annie Earle, who is troubled by a meddling aunt, a chronically ill mother, and a handicapped younger brother. Annie Earle comes of age and faces love and loss in a story of courage and strength. JSW

Getting Even. Mavis Jukes. Knopf. 176 pp. ISBN 0-394-99594-5. $12.99. Paper

ed., Knopf (F). (I.) Ten-year-old Maggie is victimized by an obnoxious classmate and gets conflicting advice from her divorced parents. A funny novel about independence and families that raises questions about revenge, extortion, forgery, and honor. AFG

Good-bye, My Wishing Star. Vicki Grove. Putnam. 128 pp. ISBN 0-399-21532-8. $12.95. Paper ed., Scholastic (F). (I.) When 12-year-old Jens Tucker's family is forced to leave their farm for financial reasons, she chronicles their last weeks in a dairy and develops a more mature perspective on poverty and loss. A realistic novel that explores a major problem haunting American farm families: the prospect of losing family-owned land and starting over in an urban environment. MZ

Ludie's Song. Dirlie Herlihy. Dial. 224 pp. ISBN 0-8037-0533-6. $14.95. (A.) Set in rural Georgia in the 1950s, this is the story of a growing friendship between 13-year-old Marty and a black family with a disfigured, artistic daugther named Ludie. Marty begins to comprehend the injustice of labeling a group of people inferior on the basis of color and struggles with the frustration of trying to convince her parents to see Ludie through her eyes. A riveting first novel drawn from personal experiences. AFG

Maudie in the Middle. Phyllis Reynolds Naylor and Lura Schield Reynolds. Illustrated by Judith Gwyn Brown. Atheneum. 176 pp. ISBN 0-689-31395-0. $13.95. Paper ed., Dell (F). (I.) Life in a large Iowa farm family in the 1900s is seen from the middle child's perspective. Box socials, party-line telephone conversations, and one-room schools where promotion means moving over a row are vividly portrayed by a mother-and-daughter writing team. AFG

Our Home Is the Sea. Riki Levinson. Illustrated by Dennis Luzak. Dutton. 32 pp. ISBN 0-525-44406-8. $13.95. (P.) The busy city of Hong Kong is seen through the eyes of a young boy hurrying home from the last day of school to the family houseboat in the harbor. His mother wants him to be a schoolteacher, though he wishes to be a fisherman like his father and grandfather. Interesting contrasts of traditional and modern living are evoked through story line and effective, full-color, oil-painted illustrations. JSW

Our House on the Hill. Philippe Dupasquier. Illustrated by the author. Viking. 32 pp. ISBN 0-670-81971-9. $11.95. (P.) Monthly climatic changes and the indoor and outdoor events of family life are depicted in a unique picture book that invites browsing and discussion. The only word on each two-page, full-color spread is the month. SDS

Park's Quest. Katherine Paterson. Lodestar. 160 pp. ISBN 0-525-67258-3. $12.95. (I.) In the spirit of a medieval knight on a quest, 11-year-old Park sets out to learn about his father who died in Vietnam. During a visit to his paternal grandfather's farm, he discovers the complexity of human emotions. A skillful blending of timeless legend and present-day reality. MZ

Redbird. Patrick Forte. Illustrated by the author. Orchard. 18 pp. ISBN 0-531-05746-1. $19.95. (P & I.) The flying adventures of Redbird, a small aircraft, are presented in braille and black type with raised, full-color illustrations that can be felt as well as seen. An unusual picture book that invites participation in story line and format can be enjoyed by all readers. SDS

Saying Good-bye to Grandma. Jane Resh Thomas. Illustrated by Marcia Sewall. Clarion. 48 pp. ISBN 0-89919-645-4. $13.95. (P.) Members of a caring family support one another during a week of grieving and remembering. A sensitive story about death, the rituals of death, and funerals. Excellent for young readers who have never been to a funeral or funeral home. ATH

The Scarebird. Sid Fleischman. Illustrated by Peter Sis. Greenwillow. 32 pp. ISBN 0-688-07318-2. $11.88. (P.) Readers identify with Lonesome John's imaginary friend, the scarecrow, and delight when the farmer finds a real friend in the hired hand. JSW

The Silver Whistle. Ann Tompert. Illustrated by Beth Peck. Macmillan. 32 pp. ISBN 0-02-789160-7. $14.95. (P & I.) Miguel's spontaneous generosity is rewarded when his modest gift to the Infant at the Christmas Eve Procession of Gifts is given the place of honor. Marvelous, two-page, full-color illustrations capture the Mexican locale. ATH

Six Crows: A Fable. Leo Lionni. Illustrated by the author. Knopf. 32 pp. ISBN 0-394-99572-4. $12.99. (P.) Who will outsmart whom in the wheat field: the farmer with his ingenious scarecrows or the six hungry crows with their ferocious kites? Owl's simple advice solves the seemingly endless conflict. ATH

Storm in the Night. Mary Stolz. Illustrated by Pat Cummings. Harper. 32 pp. ISBN 0-06-025913-2. $12.89. (P.) The lights have gone out during a thunderstorm. Grandfather tells Thomas a tale of when he was a boy. Beautiful use of language rich with conversation conveys the warm relationship between grandfather and grandson. Intriguing, full-color illustrations. SDS

A Sudden Silence. Eve Bunting. HBJ. 112 pp. ISBN 0-15-282058-2. $13.95. (A.) When Jesse and Chloe find the hit-and-run driver who killed Jesse's deaf brother, members of their two families must face their guilt feelings. A sensitive novel that addresses problems of alcoholism, disability, and the sudden death of a sibling. ATH

Sweet Creek Holler. Ruth White. Farrar. 224 pp. ISBN 0-374-37360-4. $12.95. (I & A.) From 1948 to 1954, Ginny grows from childhood to preadolescence in a small Appalachian community. She experiences the cruelty of gossip and gradually becomes aware that her best friend is abused and suicidal. A poignant novel based on the author's memories of childhood. CBW

To Hell with Dying. Alice Walker. Illustrated by Catherine Deeter. HBJ. 32 pp. ISBN 0-15-289075-0. $13.95. (P, I, & A.) Frequently on the brink of death, Mr. Sweet is revived again and again by the narrator and her brother. A vivid, bittersweet memory of an old, black man who was as special as he made those around him feel. AFG

The Trouble with Gramary. Betty Levin. Greenwillow. 208 pp. ISBN 0-688-07372-7. $11.95. (I & A.) Merkka learns about courage, abiding by one's principles, and the binding force of family love from her grandmother, Gramary. Gramary is a welder and unconventional sculptor of scrap metal who resists conventionality and becomes an unwilling celebrity in her small, seacoast town. ATH

The Trouble with Jacob. Eloise McGraw. McElderry. 288 pp. ISBN 0-689-50447-0. $13.95. (I & A.) At a summer resort in western Oregon, 12-year-old twins unravel a mystery about a crime committed more than 100 years ago. Strong characterization and intriguing plot raise questions about restitution and justice. AFG

The Village by the Sea. Paula Fox. Orchard. 160 pp. ISBN 0-531-08388-8. $13.99. Paper ed., Dell (F). (I.) Ten-year-old Emma stays with her aunt and uncle on Long Island while her father is in the hospital. Emma and a new friend build a miniature village on the beach that elicits praise from her uncle but fosters her aunt's pernicious envy and resentment. AFG

Yonder. Tony Johnston. Illustrated by Lloyd Bloom. Dial. 32 pp. ISBN 0-8037-0278-7. $12.89. (P.) A farmer and his bride raise a family and become grandparents. The passing of time in the rural setting spans three generations. Repetitive language and seasonal variations in lush, colorful illustrations reinforce the notion that there is constancy amid change. MZ

Yours, Brett. Gertude Samuels. Lodestar. 176 pp. ISBN 0-525-67255-9. $13.95. (I & A.) The gripping ten-year odyssey of a young girl who is abandoned by both parents to foster care. Through the efforts of several caring adults and children, Brett learns to accept herself. A realistic look at a distressing problem that inspires the feeling that social change is possible. MZ □

Single copies of this reprint are available from the Children's Book Council (CBC) (67 Irving Place, P.O. Box 706, New York, NY 10276-0706) for a stamped (65¢), self-addressed, 6 x 9 envelope. 5-20 copies, 75¢ each; 21 or more copies, 60¢ each.